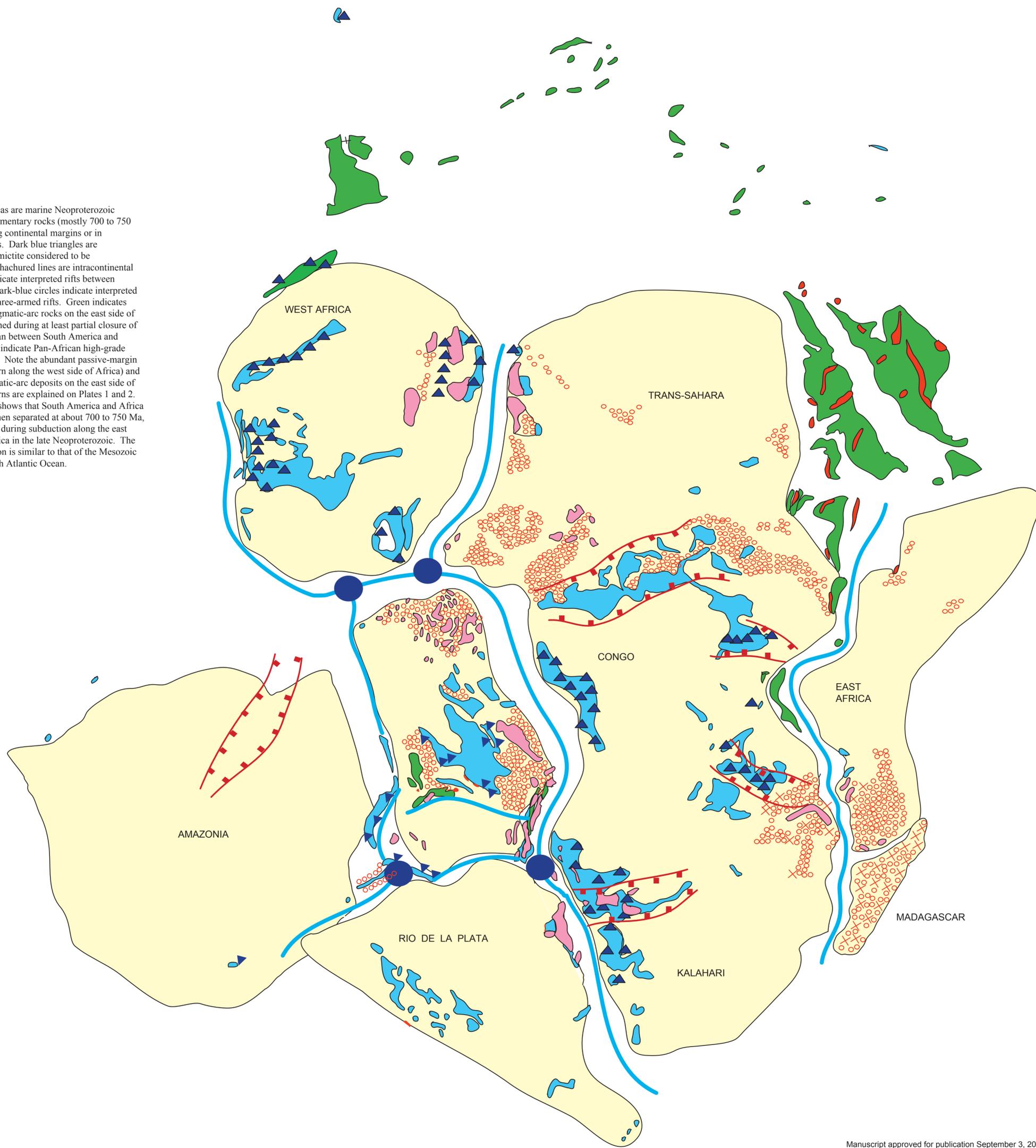


The blue pattern areas are marine Neoproterozoic passive-margin sedimentary rocks (mostly 700 to 750 Ma) deposited along continental margins or in intracontinental rifts. Dark blue triangles are Neoproterozoic diamicite considered to be glaciogenic. Red hachured lines are intracontinental rifts. Blue lines indicate interpreted rifts between continents. Large dark-blue circles indicate interpreted triple junctions of three-armed rifts. Green indicates Neoproterozoic magmatic-arc rocks on the east side of South America formed during at least partial closure of the Adamaster Ocean between South America and Africa. Red circles indicate Pan-African high-grade metamorphic rocks. Note the abundant passive-margin deposits (blue pattern along the west side of Africa) and the abundant magmatic-arc deposits on the east side of Africa. Other patterns are explained on Plates 1 and 2. The reconstruction shows that South America and Africa were once joined, then separated at about 700 to 750 Ma, and then converged during subduction along the east side of South America in the late Neoproterozoic. The location of separation is similar to that of the Mesozoic opening of the South Atlantic Ocean.



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RECONSTRUCTION OF SOUTH AMERICA, WEST AFRICA, CENTRAL AFRICA, AND  
 EAST AFRICA TO NEOPROTEROZOIC CONFIGURATION

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